CLAIMS

1. A method of wetting a web, comprising:

providing a hydrophobic web of material comprising a water-dispersible binder;

applying a wetting solution to the web; and

passing the web between a pair of press rolls.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the wetting solution is applied at an add-on greater than about 25%.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the wetting solution is applied at an add-on greater than about 100%.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the wetting solution is applied at an add-on between about 25% and about 700%.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the web retains a solution add-on greater than about 25%.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the web travels at a speed of at least 60 meters per minute.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the web of material has a conventional add-on, and the wetting solution is applied at an add-on which is at least 15% greater than the conventional add-on.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the wetting solution is applied at an add-on which is at least 25% greater than the conventional add-on.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising passing the web between a second pair of press rolls.

10. A method of wetting a web, comprising:

providing a web of material from a source;

controlling the draw of the web from the source;

perforating the web;

positioning the perforated web between a pair of press rolls; and

applying a wetting solution to the web with an add-on greater than about 25% to yield a wet web;

wherein the wet web retains a solution add-on greater than about 25%.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the wetting solution is applied at an add-on between about 25% and about 700%.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein the wetting solution is applied at an add-on greater than about 100%.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein the web travels at a speed of at least 60 meters per minute.

14. The method of claim 10, wherein the web comprises a water-dispersible binder.

15. The method of claim 10, wherein the web is hydrophobic.

16. The method of claim 10, wherein the web of material has a conventional add-on, and the wetting solution is applied with an add-on which is at least 25% greater than the first add-on.

17. The method of claim 10, further comprising passing the web between a second pair of press rolls.

18. An apparatus for wetting a substrate, comprising:

a pair of press rolls; and

a solution applicator which delivers a wetting solution to a hydrophobic web comprising a water-dispersible binder;

wherein the web passing between the press rolls can absorb the solution with an add-on of at least about 25%.

19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the solution applicator is a spray boom.

20. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the solution applicator is a drool bar.

21. The apparatus of claim 18, further comprising a fluid distribution header.

22. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the press rolls are nipped.

23. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the press rolls are separated by a distance of about 0.01 mm to about 1.0 mm.

24. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein each roll comprises a cover having a hardness of about 70 to about 95 Shore A durometer.

25. The apparatus of claim 18, further comprising a second pair of press rolls.

26. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the web has a conventional add-on, and the web passing between the press rolls can absorb the solution at an add-on which is at least 25% greater than the conventional add-on.

27. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the solution applicator delivers the wetting solution directly to the web.

28. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the solution applicator delivers the wetting solution by depositing the solution onto the press rolls.